THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Annual Status of Education Report (Rural) 2006 facilitated by Pratham, an NGO does not provide the data for drop out rates. However, as per the data available with the Ministry, dropout rates in Classes I-V (age group 6-11 years) has come down from 31.5% in 2003-04 to 29.0% in 2004-05. In Andhra Pradesh, drop-out rates in Classes I-V has come down from 42.6% in 2003-04 to 31.9% in 2004-05. During 2004-05, drop out rates in Classes I-V, was less than the national average in 10 States and 7 UTs, namely, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, A & N Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry.

Minister's Quota in admission to Kendriya Vidyalayas

†1365. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prescribed norms have been ignored in nomination of 1,200 students in the Kendriya Vidyalayas from Minister's quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Employment oriented education system

†1366. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to accord importance to employment oriented system keeping in view the needs of changing the present education system as per changing scenario;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.